



Press Release

## **Daan Roosegaarde exhibits WATERLICHT at UNESCO World Heritage site Loevestein Castle**

**March 22, 2022 - Following the world tour, WATERLICHT returns to the Netherlands. WATERLICHT is the dream landscape that visualises the power and poetry of water by artist Daan Roosegaarde. WATERLICHT kicks off the exhibition *Denkend aan water (Thinking of water)*, about the century-long relationship that Loevestein Castle has with water. The virtual flood portrays the vulnerability of Loevestein Castle, and draws attention to rising sea levels as a result of climate change. To support the mission of the United Nations' World Water Day the new movie WATERLICHT launches today. WATERLICHT can be visited on March 25th and 26th at Loevestein Castle.**

The Netherlands is inextricably linked to water. Almost a third of the Netherlands lies below sea level, and the dikes and dunes are a large part of Dutch culture. Yet, living below sea level is sometimes taken for granted. WATERLICHT is a combination of LEDs and lenses that create an ever changing virtual flood influenced by wind and rain. The artwork creates a collective experience to remind us of the importance of water innovation and the impact of climate change. The movie premiere of WATERLICHT can be seen today at <https://studioroosegaarde.net/project/waterlicht> on the World Water Day of the United Nations.

*“WATERLICHT at Loevestein Castle is an activator to create a better future. Experience the vulnerability and the power of living with water.” - Daan Roosegaarde, artist*

Loevestein Castle and its inhabitants have been battling with and against water for over seven centuries. Many people know Loevestein Castle by the spectaculair escape of Hugo de Groot in a book chest. Much less known, but of great importance, is the legacy he left behind. At Loevestein Castle he developed new ideas about peace, freedom and justice, which changed the world. From this legacy, Slot Loevestein is a logical place to think about what is needed to live harmoniously with each other and the world, in the future. Part of the exhibition *Denkend aan*

water at Loevestein Castle is that the nearby river Maas should have the right to be clean and can flow freely. This is important for the present and future generations.

Discover more about the danger and the potential of water, and listen to the WATERLICHT podcast at [www.waterlichtradio.com](http://www.waterlichtradio.com) featuring stories by Daan Roosegaarde (artist), Kathleen Ferrier (Chairperson of the Netherlands Commission for Unesco), Jessica den Outer (specialist in the field of the rights of nature), Susan Lammers (Managing Director of the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands) and Henk Ovink (Special Envoy for International Water Affairs). Henk Ovink states: *"More than 2 billion people have no access to clean water, we need to appreciate it more. With WATERLICHT we celebrate water at Loevestein Castle, and show its beauty."*

WATERLICHT is the winner of IESNYC Lumen Award New York 2020, Global Future Design Award 2019, LIT 2017 Lighting Designer of the Year USA and The Best Lighting Environment Design China. The movie of WATERLICHT was made in collaboration with Media.Monks, directed by Jan Kooyman.

#### **Visitors information:**

Loevestein 1, 5307 TG Poederroijen, the Netherlands

T: +31 183 44 71 71

Date: March 25th and 26th, 19:00 - 00:00 CET

Reserve your free tickets with a timeslot at:

<https://www.eventbrite.nl/e/registratie-waterlicht-232053988727>

Tickets are limited due to the high interest of visitors, and out of respect for the surrounding nature.

#### **About Studio Roosegaarde**

As a social design lab, Dutch designer and innovator Daan Roosegaarde and his team connect people and technology in designs that improve daily life in urban environments and spark the imagination. The studio has won numerous international design awards. Internationally acclaimed works include WATERLICHT (a virtual flood showing the power of water), SMOG FREE PROJECT (the world's first largest outdoor air purifier which turns smog into jewellery), SMART HIGHWAY (roads that charge throughout the day and glow at night), SPACE WASTE LAB (visualising and up-cycling space waste) and URBAN SUN (cleans public spaces of the coronavirus). <https://www.studioroosegaarde.net>

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Pressroom high-res images and movie: <https://pressroom.studioroosegaarde.net/>

